

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

a S21
A 87F3



Farm Broadcasters Letter

Letter No. 2380

September 15, 1988

OUTLOOK CONFERENCE

The U.S. Department of Agriculture will hold Outlook '89 in Washington on Nov. 29-Dec. 1. This will be the 65th annual Outlook Conference. Registration is free. For a program and registration packet, call 202-447-3050, or write: Outlook '89, Room 5143-S, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250-3900.

U.S. WHEAT PRODUCTION FORECAST: SEPT. 12

The total wheat production is forecast by the U.S. Department of Agriculture at 1.81 billion bushels, 14 percent less than in 1987. The average yield, at 34.2 bushels per acre, is down 3.4 bushels from 1987. Durum wheat production is now forecast at 49.2 million bushels, the lowest level since 1961. This forecast is down 47 percent from 1987 and down 10 percent from the August 1 forecast. The forecast for other spring wheat production is 206 million bushels, down 54 percent from 1987.

U.S. CORN PRODUCTION FORECAST, SEPT. 12

The production of corn for grain is forecast by the U.S. Department of Agriculture at 4.46 billion bushels, down slightly from last month and 37 percent below 1987. The U.S. average yield per acre is forecast at 78.5 bushels per acre, down 40.9 bushels from last year's record high of 119.4 bushels. Yields in the leading States and bushel changes from last year are: Iowa 78, down 52...Nebraska 112, down 19...Indiana 74, down 61...Minnesota 65, down 62...Ohio 74, down 46...and Wisconsin 75, down 43.

U.S. SOYBEAN PRODUCTION FORECAST: SEPT. 12

Soybean production is forecast by the U.S. Department of Agriculture at 1.47 billion bushels, 23 percent below 1987. If realized, this will be the lowest production since 1976. The yield is forecast at 25.9 bushels per acre, down 7.8 bushels from 1987. The last time yield fell below 26 bushels per acre was in 1974.

WORLD PRODUCTION: WHEAT

The world wheat production for 1988-89 is estimated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture at 504.6 million metric tons, up marginally from last year's harvest. Some changes from last month include: U.S. production estimated at 49.3 million tons, down 14 percent from last year. Canada production at 15.4 million tons, down 41 percent from last year. Argentina, 8 million tons, down 12 percent from last year. EC-12, 77.1 million tons, up 8 percent from last year. East Europe, 43.1 million tons, up 8 percent from last year.

WORLD PRODUCTION: The world coarse grains production for 1988/89 is estimated by the
COARSE GRAINS U.S. Department of Agriculture at 710.6 million tons, down 10 percent from last year. U.S. production is estimated at 136.7 million tons, down 37 percent from last year. USSR, estimated at 100 million tons, down 12 percent from last year. East Europe, estimated at 65.3 million tons, up 1 percent from last year. Canada, estimated at 19.2 million tons, down 25 percent from last year. EC-12, 87.7 million tons, up 7 percent from last year.

WORLD PRODUCTION: The world production of oilseeds for 1988/89 is forecast by the
OILSEEDS U.S. Department of Agriculture at 200.9 million tons, down 4.8 million or 2 percent from last year's record output. U.S. production is forecast at 48.4 million tons, down 19 percent from last year. World soybean production is estimated at 94 million tons, down 8 percent from last year.

USSR GRAIN The 1988 Soviet grain crop estimate was lowered this month by 5 million tons to 205 million, based primarily on early yield results released by the Soviets. Preliminary yields, excluding corn, from several key areas have fallen below expectation, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Additionally, on Sept. 7, 1988, Moscow television reported that the 1988 grain harvest would be less than last year. The production estimates changed as follows: Barley down by 3 million tons to 47.5 million; rye down by 1 million to 16.5 million; and oats down by 1 million to 16.5 million.

USSR IMPORT ESTIMATE Some further decline in prospects for the 1988 USSR coarse grain crop along with the recent purchases for nearby delivery have resulted in an increase in the estimate of USSR coarse grain imports to 12 million tons, somewhat above the levels of the past 2 seasons. Total grain imports are now estimated at 27 million tons, up 2 million from a month ago, including 14 million wheat and 1 million miscellaneous grains, pulses and rice. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. corn sales to the USSR now total over 3 million tons.

ANOTHER HOTLINE: The U.S. Department of Agriculture has established a nationwide,
FOR MARIJUANA toll-free number so concerned citizens can report marijuana
REPORTING cultivation and other drug trafficking activities occurring on national forests. The toll-free number is: 1-800-73 CRIME. (In California, call 1-800-78 CRIME). The hotline is always staffed and callers are assured of anonymity.

SALMONELLA Cook eggs thoroughly and avoid raw eggs--that's the advice the
AWARENESS U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Food and Drug
CAMPAIGN Administration are giving the public. High-risk populations who are particularly vulnerable to Salmonella enteritidis infections are: The elderly, the very young, pregnant women, and those already weakened by serious illness or whose immune systems are weakened. The public is advised to also avoid eating foods containing raw eggs, such as homemade Caesar salad dressing and Hollandaise sauce, homemade ice cream, eggnog and mayonnaise. Commercial forms of these products are safe since they're made with pasteurized eggs.

WORLD WHEAT
IMPORTS

World wheat imports for 1988/89 are now projected by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to be about 2½ million tons below last month's estimate of 96.3 million tons. Higher wheat prices relative to corn and other coarse grains are expected to result in lower feed wheat trade in 1988/89. In addition, significantly smaller exportable supplies of high-quality bread wheat and durum are likely to result in a number of countries either increasing their use of domestically produced wheat or reducing 1988/89 consumption. World utilization of wheat is expected to exceed production for the second consecutive year. Wheat stocks in the major exporting countries totaled 60 million tons at the start of the 1988/89 marketing year. Ending stocks are projected to decline to around 37 million tons.

FROM OUR RADIO
SERVICE

AGRICULTURE USA #1633...(Weekly 13½ min documentary) The Department of Agriculture's Food Stamp program may be its largest welfare program but it's not the only one. On this edition of AGRICULTURE USA Brenda Curtis talks with Assistant Secretary of Agriculture John Bode about the various aide programs available to all segments of society through USDA.

AGRITAPE/FARM PROGRAM REPORT #1621...(Weekly reel of news features) USDA news highlights; Crop appraisals; Ag. outlook update; Low input agriculture; Ground water pollution.

CONSUMER TIME #1113...(Weekly reel of 2½-3 min features) Cancer and diet; Food Stamp Program update; School lunches and your children; The "Bees" are coming; Computerizing potatoes.

USDA RADIO NEWS SERVICE...Fri, Sept. 23, Citrus production report; Ag. resources outlook; Horticultural exports. Mon, Sept. 26, World ag. outlook; Tues, Sept. 27, Weekly weather and crop outlook; Thurs, Sept. 29, Ag. prices outlook; Fri, Sept. 30, Grain stocks report; Hogs and pigs report. Dial the USDA National News Line 202-488-8358 or 8359. All material changed at 5 p.m. ET each working day.

TELEVISION SERVICE programs, A BETTER WAY, DOWN TO EARTH, AGRICULTURAL UPDATE and SATELLITE NEWS are available on satellite Westar IV, audio 6.2 or 6.8 as follows:

Thursdays....AG UPDATE/SATELLITE NEWS, 7:30-7:45 p.m. ET.....Transponder 12D

Saturdays....A BETTER WAY, 10:00-10:30 a.m. ET.....Transponder 10D

ORIGINAL DOWN TO EARTH, 10:30-11:00 a.m. ET....Transponder 10D

UPLINK SATELLITE NEWS/AG UPDATE, 11:00-11:15 a.m. ET.....Transponder 10D

Mondays.....A BETTER WAY, 8:00-8:30 a.m. ET.....Transponder 12D

REPEAT DOWN TO EARTH, 8:30-9:00 a.m. ET....Transponder 12D

UPLINK SATELLITE NEWS/AG UPDATE, 9:00-9:15 a.m. ET.....Transponder 12D

A BETTER WAY is also available on The Learning Channel SATCOM 3R, Transponder 2, Audio 6.8 each Thursday at 10:30 a.m. ET.

OFFMIKE

New department of farm broadcasting has been created at KPET, La Mesa, TX. David Putman is the Director. He formerly served on the farm staff of KFYO, Lubbock.

1988 Fact Book of Agriculture was requested by Gregory Silver (Penn State Cooperative Extension) in response to a mention in this column of the publication's availability. His is the most recent request. Let us know if you need one.

Mother Nature knocked some sections of agriculture around a bit with drought, but not in all regions. This was brought to our attention as staff made telephone calls to farm directors regarding availability of the audio bridge for the September Crop Report news conference. Equipment in some areas moving well. Some seed suppliers may have to import to fill needs.

Farm Broadcasters Letter
Radio and Television, Rm. 410A
Office of Information, OGPA
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20250-1300

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Penalty for Private Use \$300

2.8 million satellite dishes are estimated in U.S., and Ed Zachary (RFD-TV, Omaha, NB) says 70% are located in rural areas. Ed called to say RFD-TV satellite network is devoted to agriculture and programs 24-hours a day, 7 days a week on Spacenet 1, channel 23.

Audio Bridge mentioned above reminds me to remind you that if your organization agrees to participate on the land-line system, we reserve the audio port for you. If you can't participate, but can give us a few hours notice we'll make it available to others. We'll appreciate your cooperation.



VIC POWELL, Chief, Radio and Television Division.